

Conservation Commission – July 30, 2011

Members present were co-chairs Mr. Ned Wilson & Mr. John Weinstein, and Mr. Tom Coote; meeting was called to order at 10:05 AM.

Meeting minutes of June 28th were approved as amended.

Ormsbee Hearing: Present for this hearing was representative, Mr. James Kelly & Mr. Scott Smith. Applicant submitted a RDA for the purpose of controlling invasive plants to protect and restore native habit and pastures. Property location is Mill River Great Barrington Road. Mr. Kelly states that Mr. Ormsbee had applied for a grant for invasive plants and received the grant this past year, grant is for a 3 year period. DEP requested that the intermittent brooks be detailed. Mr. Kelly also mentions that the property owner would like to improve habit, and the work project totals 93 acres but they will be working on a few acres here and there in the buffer zones. Mr. Kelly states that this property has been in agriculture use for at least 5 years. A motion was made, seconded to close this hearing. A motion was made, seconded to approve this application with a negative #3 with the condition being rodeo will be used in the buffer zones, with hand-held wands in spot-spraying. Motion passes.

Old Business:

Poindexter – This request was continued from last month meeting. The commission received the letter requested from the contractor that stated the job is completed for 343 East Hill Road. A motion was made, seconded and so voted to approve the certificate of compliance.

Horton – The commission amended the emergency order for 66 Hadsell Street to include digging of a separate trench that will be used as secondary system (sump pump was backing up into the house, the original emergency order was granted for uncovering the buried pipe, find bend and repair and rebury).

New Business:

Ms. Martha Bryan, Co-Chair of the New Marlborough Land Trust appeared before the commission with questions regarding 1 and quarter acre of land (dam on Hayes Hill Road) that was given to the Land Trust, the Land Trust would like to restore area with native plants and put a couple of benches for sitting. The commission suggests a NOI would need to be filed, but check into if there are any grants available to do this project.

The commission discussed that they received a call from Mr. Marc Volk, Foresight Land Services regarding Tatlock's on Canaan Southfield Road regarding the stream is it a perennial or intermittent? The commission reviewed the regulations 10:58 and the USDA map shows that the stream is a perennial. The commission would like Mr. Volk to research this and state weather the stream is a perennial or intermittent, they feel it is not up to them to make that decision.

Reviewed mail:

- a. Letter from contractor –Re: Poindexter – East Hill Road – work complete.
- b. Open Space Conference – August 20, 2011.
- c. Notice of Decision of special permit – Ormsbee.
- d. MassWildlife News – June 1st & June 31st.
- e. Forest Cutting Plan – E. MacDowell – Mill River Great Barrington Road.
- f. Natural Heritage & Endangered Species Program – RE: Forest Cutting Plan – B. Levin – Rhoades & Bailey Road.

No other business was brought before the commission, so voted to adjourn at 11:23 AM.

Next regular scheduled meeting is August 27th at 10AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Chretien
Secretary